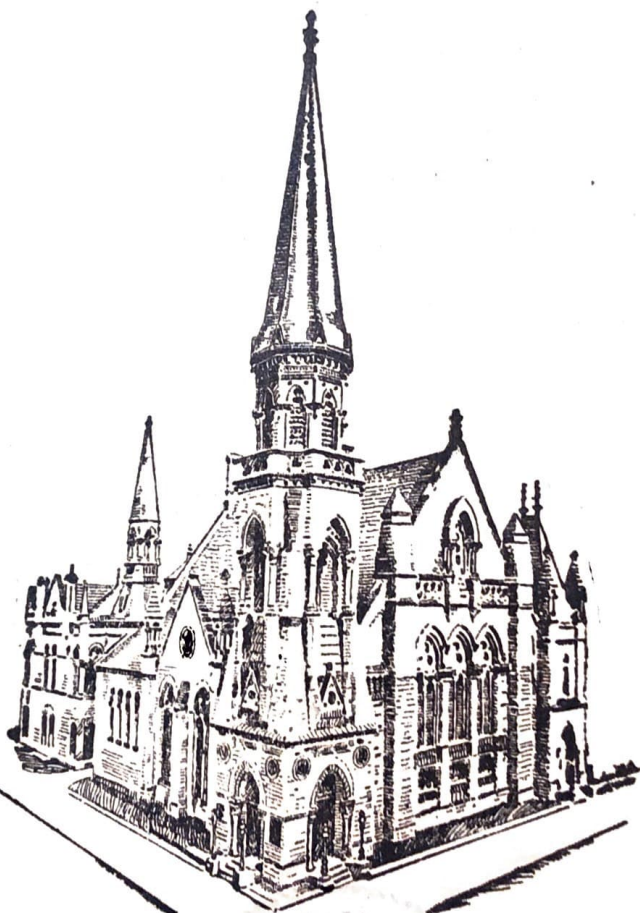


Church Life



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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

South Park Ave and Thirty-First St.
Chicago, Ill.

REV. AUSTEN K. DE BLOIS, Pastor
3436 Calumet Avenue.

Deacons

John P. Ahrens
D. R. Leland
William J. Liddy

Erick Strandberg
J. S. McCullough
Alonzo C. Bass

C. A. Pienkowsky
W. R. Raymond
Harvey W. Stone

F. W. Griffing
C. E. Whitmore
Wm. Wigney

Deacons for Life

E. D. Neal

Edward Goodman

James McElroy

Trustees

Charles H. Marshall, Chairman

T. E. Donnelley
John H. Wrenn
C. H. Williams

J. G. Marsh
Bowman C. Lingle

M. J. Piercey
C. R. Stouffer

W. Tomlinson
R. B. Twiss
Ervin L. Roy

Pastor's Aids

Mrs. M. J. Perkins
Mrs. Eliza Harvey

Mrs. H. F. Googins
Mrs. F. E. Hinckley

Mrs. Clifford Williams
Mrs. S. B. Lingle
Mrs. Wm. Wigney

Clerk

Geo. C. Arthur, 3331 Armour Avenue

Treasurer

Charles E. Whitmore, 3213 South Park Avenue.

Organist

C. A. Havens, 3018 Vernon Ave.

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS.

Sunday School

M. J. Piercey, Superintendent
42 Thirty-Third Place

Ass't Superintendents in Charge

Intermediate Dept., Dr. F. H. Kelly
Primary Dept., Mrs. A. E. Thomas
Junior Primary Dep't, Mrs. C. G. Lumley.
Junior Dept., Mrs. J. S. McCullough
Home Dept., Rev. E. L. Kelley.

Christian Endeavor Society

Miss Clara E. de Clerq, President.
42 Thirty-third Place

Women's Mission Circle

Mrs. J. F. Gillette, President
2908 Michigan Avenue

Ladies Benevolent Society.

Mrs. Clifford Williams, President

Amoret Henson Guild

Miss Leila Ahrens, President
3218 Vernon Avenue

Men's League

S. H. Trude, President
3229 South Park Avenue

Young Ladies' Missionary Society

Miss Ethel Hoops, President
4168 Drexel Boulevard

The Lorimer Class

Samuel E. Lingle, President
3144 Vernon Avenue

RAYMOND CHAPEL

CORNER 31ST AND POPLAR AVE.

Sunday School

Dr. F. H. Kelly, Superintendent
F. H. Hackendahl, Secretary.

Christian Endeavor Society

Miss Sophie Olsen, President.

Ladies' Aid Society

Mrs. William Wadie, President

Girl's Guild

Miss Lingle, Superintendent
Sophie C. Olsen, President

Reeder Class for Young Men

John Parker, President

Industrial School

Miss Jessie J. Chandler, Superintendent.

Mission Committee

B. C. Lingle, Treasurer

Dr. E. C. Spinney, Chairman

Chas. E. Edling

Dr. Laura McLaren

Mrs. R. R. Donnelly

W. R. Raymond

Mrs. H. F. Perkins

T. F. Olsen

William J. Wadie

Church Life

Vol. V.

JANUARY, 1908.

No. 1.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND SOCIETIES.

DELAYED REPORTS.

The reports of the pastor and assistants with that of the church treasurer will be printed next month.

Dr. Laura McLaren, T. F. Olsen, Charles E. Stone, Miss Leila M. Ahrens, Robert Leland,

ley. Assistant, Mrs. A. E. Thomas, Assistant. Secretary—Dr. F. W. Gale. Treasurer—C. H. Stone. Librarian—C. M. Clark, D. L. Blain, Assistant.

OFFICERS ELECTED WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1908.

CHURCH OFFICERS.

Deacons for Life—E. D. Neal, James McElroy.

Deacons for Three Years—Chas. A. Pienkowsky, Harry W. Stone, J. S. McCullough, Erick P. Strandberg.

Deacons for Two Years (for unexpired terms of Deacons McElroy and Mallory)—W. J. Liddy, A. C. Bass.

Trustees—J. H. Wrenn, T. E. Donnelley, J. Gorton Marsh, R. B. Twiss, C. R. Stouffer, M. J. Piercey, H. W. Tomlinson, Clifford H. Williams, B. C. Lingle, C. H. Marshall, Ervin L. Roy.

Treasurer—C. E. Whitmore.

Auditing Committee—H. J. Hale, W. H. Vallette.

Pastor's Aids—Mrs. M. J. Perkins, Mrs. Eliza Harvev, Mrs. H. F. Googins, Mrs. F. E. Hinckley, Mrs. Clifford Williams, Mrs. S. B. Lingle, Mrs. Wm. Wigney.

Baptismal Committee—M. V. Wagner, Miss Clara Stowell, Mrs. S. B. Lingle, Miss Mary Marx, J. W. Bilton, Mrs. Erick Strandberg.

Church Mission Committee—Dr. E. C. Spinney, Chairman, Mrs. R. R. Donnelley, B. C. Lingle, W. R. Raymond, Mrs. H. F. Perkins, Dr. Laura McLaren, F. F. Olsen, Charles E. Edling, William J. Wadie.

Library Committee—Mrs. W. E. Smith, C. H. Stone, Miss Leila M. Ahrens, Robert Leland, Mrs. W. S. Baird.

Church Clerk—George C. Arthur, W. B. Nichols, Assistant.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS.

Superintendent—M. J. Piercey, Dr. F. H. Kel-

REPORT OF CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL VISITOR.

The work of your church and Sunday School visitor was interrupted during 1907, so that only nine months' actual service can be reported. They have been exceedingly busy months, into which I have put my whole time and strength in the work of our church, but as I look back upon the year I am more than grateful for the many hands which have helped in the work which was given me to do, and for the many hearts which have loved and comforted and inspired me to stronger service, and for the perfect spirit of harmony which has prevailed in all departments of our work. I shall always have many bright memories of the time I have spent in working with you, and thank God for the friends whose interest and prayers will go with me in the broader work which I have undertaken.

During the past year the work of our Sunday School has demanded a large part of my time. There is a growing failure on the part of the parents of our neighborhood to insist upon, or even encourage an uninterrupted attendance at Sunday School on the part of their children. So the work of Sunday School visitation seems to become each year more and more necessary and more and more difficult. However, I have felt great satisfaction in the results produced by the faithful efforts of all who have joined in the work of our Sunday School during the past year, and sincerely hope that your officers for 1908 may not be left without the aid of a Sunday School visitor for many weeks.

At Thanksgiving time thirty-five dinners were sent to the poor families of our Sunday School and church, after thorough investigation on the part of the Sunday School visitor. Five hundred eighty-five garments and articles of bedding passed through her hands during 1907, together with funds from various sources

22406

WITHDRAWN

amounting to \$250.82 for the relief of the poor and the work of organizing for which they were designated. Of this latter amount \$67.50 was granted by the deacons from the Fellowship Fund, and \$45 came from the Drake Fund.

It would be quite impossible to mention all the departments of work in which I have had a hand during the months covered by this report. The statistical report which follows may give some idea of the amount of work accomplished, although I am sure there is much to add to this report which can only be known by the angels in heaven and the souls that have been helped by our beloved church through the instrumentality of the missionary.

Calls made	1389
Letters written	97
Postals written	213
Services attended	345
Committee meetings attended	44
Teachers' meetings attended	24
Bible lessons given	37
Garments and bedding disbursed	589

May God's richest blessing rest upon the work of our church during the year upon which we have entered, and may His Spirit have full possession of pastor and people and guide in all the work.

Sincerely yours,

MARGARET VAN FLEET.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Chicago, Ill., January 8, 1908.

To the First Baptist Church,
Dear Brethren and Sisters:

I submit herewith report of the Sunday School for the year 1907.

The average attendance during the year, as shown by the secretary's report, is:

Intermediate Department	202.52
Primary Department	191.13

Total 393.65
Showing a decrease of 14.

The financial condition, as shown by the treasurer's report, shows: Received from all sources since January 1, 1907, \$1,110.41, and the disbursements, \$742.66, and of the amount on hand \$122.49 is awaiting the recommendation of a committee for distribution. Total collection for benevolences during year, \$341.04.

The general attendance of the Bible Classes has been most gratifying, especially that of the Adult Class, and it is hoped that the members of our church will continue to show by their presence that the Sunday School is the mainstay and power of the church in leading the young to the Master.

During the past year 27 have made professions of their faith and united with the church, and at the present time there are several believed to be under conviction, and it is trusted that before long we may see these uniting with the church.

The Teachers' Training Class, under Mrs. Ware, is a very important work, and the result of this teaching will in a few months, it is hoped, furnish several very efficient teachers. Young men and women are earnestly invited to

join the class and fit themselves for the work. In the Primary Department it has been deemed necessary to make the following changes: The Junior Primary (or Infant Class) has been made a separate department under the supervision of Mrs. Lumley and holds services in the church parlors with the hope that more efficient work is being accomplished.

What was known as the "graduating class" have been formed into a Junior Department, placed under the supervision of Mrs. McCollough, and at the present consists of five classes with an average attendance of 33. Pupils in this department, in addition to studying the regular Sunday lesson have also supplemental work which will fit them for advancement in due time to the Intermediate Department with a better knowledge of the Bible than heretofore. This department is holding its session in what is known as the deacons' parlors but it should have a larger room, but this has not been found possible owing to the arrangement of the church building.

A regular monthly teachers' meeting has been held on covenant night, but for various reasons it has been found difficult to get a majority of teachers to attend principally owing to the early hour of meeting, 7 p. m., but it is hoped that this may be overcome during the coming year.

The progressive Sunday School of today is to provide suitable entertainment in addition to Children's Day, picnics and Christmas entertainments. Three such entertainments were given this past year—a stereopticon lecture, concert and a reading which were greatly enjoyed by those present. More such entertainments would have been given, but lack of funds forbade it.

The present life of young people and children in a city like Chicago requires something more than a weekly session for study of the Word—and it is one of the greatest problems of the day, when so much indifference is shown on the part of a great number of parents as to religious and church attendance, for one to know what course to pursue. The most reasonable course would seem to be the furnishing of free stereopticon lectures and concerts. Let any one walk down any of our streets and on all sides he will see cheap theaters, places of amusements, and it is to those places the children of all classes are flocking.

To provide suitable lectures and concerts costs more, the amount of which is beyond the means of the average Sunday School, it was owing to this reason that more such entertainments have not been given by the school.

To illustrate the effect of such methods a short time ago, on a Saturday afternoon, entertainment was given the Primary Department. A reader was engaged at a cost of \$1.00 and the result was that our prayer room was filled with children from 5 to 15 years of age. Of course, a large number were not members of our school, but what was gained they were taken from the streets for one afternoon and became more or less acquainted with our school. The question is, what shall we do to save our boys and girls? and it is a question that must be solved by the church.

be left entirely to the Sunday School which looks to the church for its support.

In this immediate locality let any member of our church walk down 31st street or along Cottage Grove avenue from 29th to 35th street between the hours of 7 and 10 p. m. and such observation will convince him of the necessity of the churches waking up to a realization of what influences are at work.

A teachers' training and study class was organized without cost last October, under the direction of Mrs. D. B. Wells, of the Cook County Sunday School Association. The meetings are held in the prayer meeting room every Monday at 7:45 p. m. with an average attendance of about 30. To these meetings all members of the church, and churches in the vicinity, are invited. The teaching is non-denominational and those who have attended have been greatly blessed. It is greatly regretted that more do not avail themselves of this rare opportunity.

The number of workers in our Sunday School at the present time—officers and teachers—is 74, and yet we are still in need of at least 10 more teachers to properly care for the classes and to carry on the work. It should be remembered that we are now without a Sunday School visitor, which entails much more work on the officers and teachers.

The value of the work of the Sunday School or the past year only time can tell, but what has been accomplished is due solely to the unanimous co-operation of all officers and teachers, and not to any one in particular. However, I must express the thanks of all to our pastor and Rev. Kennan and Miss Van Fleet for the assistance and counsel they have at all times given.

The prayers and assistance and attendance of all members of our church for the coming year is asked. Respectfully submitted,

M. J. PIERCEY, Supt.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT.

Name of School—First Baptist.

Location—31st street and South Park avenue, Chicago.

Denomination—Baptist. Hour of Opening—9:30 a. m.

Pastor's Name—Rev. Austen K. de Blois.

Address—3319 Calumet avenue.

Superintendent's Name—M. J. Piercey.

Address—550 Federal building.

Primary Superintendent—Mrs. A. E. Thomas.

Address—2938 Indiana avenue. Enrollment—231.

Junior Superintendent—Mrs. J. S. McCullough.

Address—3846 Ellis avenue. Enrollment—56.

Intermediate Superintendent—Dr. F. H. Kelly.

Address—3104 Cottage Grove avenue. Enrollment—295.

Teacher Men's Class—Rev. A. K. de Blois (Men's League).

Address—3319 Calumet avenue. Enrollment—111.

Teacher Women's Class—C. R. Stouffer.

Address—4168 Drexel boulevard. Enrollment—26.

Teacher Mixed Class—Jno. P. Ahrens.

Address—3218 Vernon avenue. Enrollment—34.

Are Classes Organized?—Yes. Interested in Athletics?—Yes.

Athletic Representative—Ernest Hartung.

Address—3846 Elmwood.

Home Department Superintendent—Rev. R. R. Kennan.

Address—3226 Rhodes avenue. Enrollment—106.

Cradle Roll Members—48. I. B. R. A. Members—None.

No. Scholars not including Cradle Roll or Home Dept., and Men's League (111)—512.

Officers and Teachers—74. Average attendance—393.65.

No. Scholars received into church—27.

Amount of Benevolent Contributions—\$341.04.

Amount Given to Cook County Sunday School Association—\$10.

Is School open all year?—Yes. Has Primary separate room?—Yes.

Does School hold Weekly Teachers' Meetings?—Yes.

Have you a Normal Teacher-Training Class?—Yes.

Are Weekly lessons and quarterly reviews written?—No.

Do you observe Decision Day?—Yes. Rally Day?—Yes.

Confirmation Sunday?—No. Citizenship Day?—No.

Do you Teach Catechism?—Yes (in Primary Dept.).

Do you teach Supplemental Lessons?—Yes. Is School graded?—Yes. How?—Seven Depts.

Have you permanent Records?—Yes.

REPORT FOR TREASURER OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR 1907.

RECEIPT.

Cash on hand January 1:

General Fund	\$173.79
Birthday Fund	28.33
Home Department	44.00
Lecture	21.24
Steele Baby	17.00
Baptist Hospital	8.21
Special Donation	5.50
Teachers' Training Class	48.00
Acct. Picnic	3.75
From Friends	25.00
Miss Van Fleet	6.35
Church	141.98
Pope Memorial Fund	12.50
Interest on Birthday Fund24
Sunday Collection, viz.:	
Birthday Offering	19.41
School Expense	295.04
Benevolences	122.49

\$972.83

Chicago, December 31, 1907.

CHURCH LIFE

DISBURSEMENTS.	
Miss Van Fleet	\$ 25.00
Library	5.55
Home Department	30.00
Lecture	21.24
Steele Baby	17.00
Baptist Hospital	8.21
A. R. E. Wyant	15.50
Raymond Mission (Birthday)	30.00
Picnic	50.00
Quarterlies, etc.	208.68
Sundry expenses	161.85
Easter	7.25
Children's Day	26.46

Rally Day	
Orchestra	
Christmas expenses	
Cash on hand Dec. 31:	
General Fund	\$ 51.
Birthday Fund	17.
Teachers' Training Class	38.
Benevolence Fund	122.

CHAS. H. STONE, Theas.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1907.

Enrollment	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901
Primary Department (including Junior)	287	310	323	319	375	369	375
Intermediate Depart. (including Bible Classes)	295	330	314	263	363	282	593
Home Department	586	640	637	582	738	651	968
Men's League Cl.	111	149	125	208	276

Average Attendance:

Primary Department	191.13	204.1	217.2	223.3	262.	279.15	303.1
Intermediate Department	182.25	203.65	190.5	167.3	189.5	195.85	237.9
Men's League Cl. (average for year)	20.						

Men's League Cl. (average for 37 sessions) ..	393.65	407.7	407.7	390.6	451.5	475.	541.
Percentage of enrollment in average attendance	66.8	63.7	64	67.1	61.17	72.96	56
Graduated:							
From Infant Class to Primary	16	15	15	25	43	25	...
From Primary to Intermediate	22	26	27	36	28	45	...
Scholars received into church membership	27	9	9	23	17	13	...

SECRETARY'S NOTES FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1907—FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The enrollment of the school at the close of the year 1907, is as follows:

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.		1907	1906	1905
Junior Prim.	Officers	1		
(Infant Cl.)	Teachers	5		
	Scholars	65		
Primary Dept.	Officers	6	71	95
	Teachers	14		
	Scholars	140		
Junior Dept.	Officers	1		
(New)	Teachers	5	216	228
	Scholars	50		
		56		
Primary Dept. enrollment				
New scholars received		287	310	323
Cradle Roll—37 Resident		148		
11 Non-resident			48	
INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.				
(Including Bible Classes—Men's League Cl. not included.)				
Int. Dept.	Officers	10		
	Teachers	23		
	Scholars	128		
Bible Cl.	Teachers	9		
	Scholars	125		
Total enrollment		295	330	314
Home Dept.		586	640	637
Men's League Class		106	132	125
		111	149	

REPORT OF "SPECIAL" FUND FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL.

(In hands of Webster Tomlinson.)

January 6, 1908.

Bal. on hand Jan. 1, 1906.....\$8.30
 Int. up to Jan. 1, 1907......25
 Int. up to Jan. 1, 1908......10 \$8.65

June 16, 1907, pd. to Miss Laidlaw
 for Miss _____ (a teacher)
 on order of M. J. Piercey, Supt..\$5.00
 Jan. 6, 1908, pd. to Mrs. Clifford
 Williams for _____ (S.
 S. Scholar) on order of M. J.
 Piercey, Supt.\$3.65 \$8.65

Account closed.

Respectfully submitted,

WEBSTER TOMLINSON.

THE LORIMER CLASS.

BY ERNEST HARTUNG.

The year 1907 has just passed, and our class steps into the new year with more determination and with greater confidence in ourselves to do better work for the Master than before. Our Sunday attendance increased more than double the year 1906, and we hope that it will continue to do so, as we have the best teacher, best lessons, and best of fellowship. The treasurer reports a nice amount in the treasury with which to start the new year right. Our next election will take place on Friday, January 10, followed by refreshments and games. We have not had a social since last October as basket ball has taken a firm hold on the class. We are glad to announce that we won the final game of the year, Saturday, December 28, defeating Normal Park Presbyterian 38 to 13. The best game of the season yet played in our league, was that between our team and Englewood Presbyterian January 4, which we lost by a close score of 17 to 19. The score at the end of the second half was 16 to 16, and the teams had to play fully ten minutes overtime, before our opponents could be declared the victors. It was a game full of thrills and excitement, first one team then the other being ahead. We wish to thank the few who have represented our church at the games; but would like more to come out and root for the team, as the same faithful ones are always seen at the games. The games played are close and exciting, and free from roughness. The players representing our church in the league are:

Adrian Webster, right forward.

Arthur Hartung, right forward.

Ernest Hartung, left forward.

Fred Wolters, center.

A. J. Cameron, left guard.

R. L. Phelps, right guard.

At present the schedule calls for the last games to be played January 25; but on account of the good crowds that turn out to watch the team play, games may be continued through the month of February. This change will be announced later.

REPORT OF LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, JANUARY 5, 1908.

(As read, December 6, 1907.)

The wheels of time seem to have gathered speed, and have brought us to the close of another year with incredible rapidity, but yet so smoothly have they run, and with so little jar or friction, that we scarcely realize the distance we have covered on the way, which we aim to travel under the Master's guidance, until we review the journey and let our deeds serve as milestones.

During the past twelve months we have held sixteen regular meetings, and although our roll shows a membership of about 80, of whom three are new, our average attendance for the year has been only 55, the largest being 72 and the smallest 30, at the meeting held only four days before Christmas. We know that this breaks the record for many years, and regret that we appear to have striven so earnestly for the low mark, but a careful investigation shows legitimate cause for the absence of many of our most faithful members, during a large part of, if not for the whole year, and while we have missed them sorely, we have realized that theirs was the greater loss, for we all grow to love these gatherings.

The work of our president, Mrs. McCullough, during her second year of office, has been most praiseworthy, and it has been marked with achievements, so many and so varied, that even those of us who are most closely in touch with the work are amazed as we recount them.

\$858.45 has come into our treasurer's hands, and from a financial standpoint our greatest feat was the Holiday Market which was held December 11 and 12, 1906, under the direct supervision of Mrs. W. E. Smith, and the committee of which she is chairman. Her ability and inexhaustible energy, together with the co-operation of the various committees in charge of the booths, carried the affair to a successful close, with only six weeks of preparation. The net profits of the market were \$625, and the Men's League was the chief beneficiary when this sum was divided, as the prime object of the market had been to aid it in a large and worthy undertaking.

The fact that the ladies had made a supreme effort to accomplish this victory seemed no reason to them for resting on their laurels, and the remainder of the year has been spent in our usual activities.

We have sewed for the "Children's Aid Society" and for our own needy ones, and when not pressed by work of this kind, we have filled orders for aprons, quilting, etc., and have thus brought many dollars into our treasury.

Embroidery teas, a concert, and a sale of delicatessen and fancy articles in May added to the fund, and we have been enabled to do some sadly needed cleaning in our parlors,—the renovating of the carpets being the largest item, for which we received a letter of commendation from the trustees. We have made two purchases which add greatly to our equip-

ment—one is in the shape of a most modern sewing machine, obtained at a very low rate through the courtesy of one of our members, and the other makes us the owners of 12 dozen sherbert cups, which does away with the expense and inconvenience of renting.

In February we were invited to the Baptist Hospital for luncheon and a day's sewing, and about 35 responded to the invitation. More good was accomplished by our visit, than the work of our needles that day, for our eyes were so opened to the forlorn and neglected appearance of our room there that an embroidery tea was given in March for its express benefit. From this tea, and other sources, a sufficient sum was realized to purchase a new chandelier and some materials which the ladies transformed into dainty, yet serviceable covers, curtains, etc., and left a small surplus which was given in cash. It afforded us much satisfaction to know that future occupants of the room might feel that the gift in this case had not been barren of the giver's time and loving thought. In March we made our annual gift of household supplies to the Hospital, which was augmented in April by a donation of furnishings, made by two ladies in the name of our society.

We have contributed to the Rummage Sale at Raymond Chapel, and to the missionary barrels that have just been started on their long journey, besides distributing 382 old, and 133 new garments, comforts, toys, dolls, and even a Christmas dinner to the poor who have come directly under our notice.

We have responded to an appeal for help in building a church edifice at Chickasha, Oklahoma, and have aided a student who would otherwise have been unable to graduate.

The Florence Crittenton Home has received a small cash donation, and two gifts by subscription have been made, which bore with them our sincerest affection.

Our time and energy have been drawn upon in the serving of a supper for the Y. W. M. U. on the occasion of its visit to this church, a dinner to Dr. de Blois which was given by the deacons and trustees just before his departure to China, and the Men's League banquet in November.

The Industrial School has flourished under the management of Miss Jessie Chandler, having an average attendance of 60 pupils and 9 teachers, and received a donation from our treasury towards its last Christmas entertainment.

While we have been giving of ourselves and our substance, we have not been forgotten, for a modern dishwasher—the practical gift of Mrs. Clifford Williams, holds an important place among our kitchen furnishings, and an appreciative guest gave us \$5 to use in our work.

Although some of our members have been called upon to mourn the loss of loved ones, and we have grieved in sympathy with them. We rejoice to say that our immediate circle has been untouched by the hand of death. We have, however, met with a great loss in the departure of Miss Van Fleet to enter upon a new field of duty.

She has been the link which held us close

to those for whom we have labored, and the future seems very purposeless without her discriminating, yet sympathetic judgment to aid us. To our standing committees, no greater praise can be given than to say they have seemed to realize that smaller numbers mean greater responsibilities for the few who remain, and have risen nobly to the occasion.

The cutting committee is ever ready with well prepared work to place in willing hands.

The quilt committee is always in evidence, bending over the trying task which offers so little variation as to be very wearying to the flesh.

The lookout committee has greeted 227 strangers, and is so true to its name that it would be difficult for even a journalistic lady to escape being welcomed, and the table committee, which has been, perhaps, more handicapped than any other, has never let us feel its difficulties, but has served us bountifully and well at every meeting.

It is gratifying to chronicle this list of things accomplished, and yet we must not be satisfied, for "contentment is death to ambition," and we must set ourselves still greater tasks for the year to come. We are told that "real struggling is real living!" And Stevenson said, "To travel hopefully is a better thing than to arrive, and the true success is to labor."

Respectfully submitted,
E. A. Roy, Secretary.

WOMAN'S MISSION CIRCLE.

Dr. De Blois.

Dear Pastor:—The Woman's Mission Circle has just observed the annual praise service. We have reason to bless God and take courage.

Among the blessings of the year is the restoration to health of our beloved treasurer.

New and helpful members have been added to our number during these months.

The average attendance has been fifty-eight.

We have endeavored in addition to our apportionment to raise three hundred dollars for the new Training School building.

Receipt for the Woman's Home Mission Society, \$485.44, of which \$143.50 is for the building.

For the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the west, \$433.14.

Very sincerely,

JENNIE M. LINGLE, Sec.

January 4, 1908.

MEN'S LEAGUE.

During the past year the members of our league have been as thoroughly and energetically alive and active as ever, and have carried our league to the end of another very successful season under the able leadership of President Trude.

In all ways the object of the organization has been carried out.

Religious instruction has been efficiently and effectively imparted, mental and social conditions of our men benefited by the social evenings with the splendid talks by live men on live topics of the day, and the opportunity for fellowship with one another, while in a

physical way the league has done very little, though some of the young men of the Lorimer class who also attend the league have formed both basket and base ball teams, which have done good work in the Cook County Bible Class League.

The several committees have responded nobly to the demands of the league activities, and in all instances splendid progress has been made.

Recently the membership committee, under Mr. Robert Leland, has undertaken a scheme, which, if backed up well, ought to increase the League Bible class attendance and scope of work wonderfully and also do our church much good.

This is to urge attendance through a letter sent to men, whose names appear on our voting list, urging their attendance at league and church, and setting forth the league and its advantages.

The social committee has achieved splendid success for our league, for by its excellent and enjoyable social evenings, held once a month throughout the year, it has brought together our members and their friends under good influences and increasing interest in our league through giving them a chance to see and enjoy our league and its features.

The rooms committee is also deserving of great credit for the efficient and excellent accomplishment of their work.

Then comes the fellowship committee which, through promoting the brotherly feeling so necessary to successful church work, and also by visiting sick brothers, have done great good and successful work for our league. This committee merits hearty commendation.

The Bible class keeps along about the same as far as attendance goes, the average attendance being about 25.

It is hoped to increase attendance in Bible class very soon.

The league has been most fortunate in having Mr. Samuel Trude for president, for under him some of our most successful work has been done.

Also in having a faithful and most able Bible teacher in Dr. de Blois, our beloved pastor. Also in an energetic and able corps of assistants and committee chairmen under Mr. Trude's leadership and direction.

This leaves us between two outlooks—that of the successful year just completed and the roscate and promising outlook on the future of our league.

The league here wishes to thank all who have helped the league work in any way, and, especially, to thank Dr. de Blois for so faithfully and effectively leading and teaching our Bible class.

(Signed) FRANK WILLIS GALE,
Secretary Men's League.

January 6, 1908

AMORET HENSON GUILD.

The guild has received twenty new members during the year and now has a total membership of eighty young ladies. The society's biggest work has been the raising of the money

to decorate Raymond Chapel. Miss Henderso and her committee deserved the success which followed the hard work. Then, too, the guild has sent subscriptions for children's magazines to the St. Charles Reform School at Geneva, Illinois, and to Miss Rogers in her school at Cairo, Indian territory.

The monthly meetings have had an average attendance of forty, and the suppers and programs provided by the committees have been unusually good. The Guild Bible Class, in spite of the fact that it lost many of its members by the starting of the Teachers' Training class, has prospered fairly well, and this fall especially has greatly increased its membership. Some of its money goes into the regular Sunday School fund and the rest is used in Charity.

The treasurer's report for the guild proper follows:

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand Jan. 1, 1907.....	\$ 15.96
Dues, Jan. 28, 1907—Dec. 30, 1907..	32.70
Pledge for Raymond Chapel	103.00
Total	\$151.66

DISBURSEMENT.

Suppers	\$ 45.50
Raymond Chapel	103.00
Subs. for L. H. J.....	1.50
Total	\$150.00

Balance Jan. 1, 1908.....	\$1.66
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Respectfully submitted,

HELEN GERTRUDE TODD,
Secretary.

GIRLS' FIDELITY.

The Girls' Fidelity of the First Baptist Church has proved very successful.

Although its membership has never been very large averaging from 15 to 20 at each meeting, we feel that we have accomplished what we set out to do, that is, to get the younger girls of the church interested in church work through the medium of a social organization. We meet once a month at which meeting supper is served, after which we usually have a little talk by some one actively engaged in missionary work. Occasionally we have a purely social evening with a musical program.

Just before Christmas, at the suggestion of Miss Harriet Rogers, who is teaching among the Indians, the girls sent a box of Christmas things to the little Indian children in her school.

During the past year many of the younger girls of the church have become interested in the Fidelity, and I feel confident that the society will soon grow to be one of the most useful organizations of the First Baptist Church.

Respectfully submitted,

FLORETTA SOLTON, Secretary.

OUR MISSIONARY'S LETTER.



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Mrs. S. B. Lingle.....The Mission Circle
Mrs. L. H. Smith.....The Ladies' Benevolent
Rev. R. R. Kennan.....Home Department
Mr. Robert Leland.....Christian Endeavor
Edith Gale..Young Ladies' Missionary Society
Miss Elizabeth Lingle.....Sunday School
Dr. A. K. de Blois.....Pastor's Message, etc.
Ernest Hartung.....Lorimer Baraca

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Matter for publication should be sent, on the first day of each month, to Rev. R. R. Kennan, 3226 Rhodes avenue.

Prompt payments of subscriptions to the Church Life will be much appreciated and will help to make the wheels run smoothly.

Pews or sittings in the church may be obtained from the pew committee, Messrs. M. J. Piercey, J. Gorton Marsh, Webster Tomlinson, or Clifford H. Williams at the close of any church service. Diagrams will be found near the door.

It is the plan of the Editor to give a receipt to every subscriber to the Church Life for payments made, and if such payments are not thus acknowledged within a reasonable time subscribers will confer a favor by notifying the Editor of the fact. Money sometimes gets lost in the mails or otherwise and a little prompt attention at the time will obviate differences of opinion at a later date. Kindly notice also the date to which you are credited on the receipt and have it corrected if wrong.

Dear Friends of First Church,
Chicago.

We are spending a few pleasant days with our new friends, Rev. and Mrs. Dudley, of Myngyan. Mr. Dudley holds their home station and Mrs. Dudley is occupying Meiktila, pending the appointment of a successor to Rev. Packer, D. D., who recently died, leaving the station vacant. Throughout the Burma Mission, death and sickness have depleted the ranks of the missionaries, leaving some stations vacant, others only half manned, and some in charge of missionaries' wives. I wish you could understand what it means for a young mother of two babies, her own health far from perfect, to take charge of a work that occupied the time of an old trained missionary and his wife, but you need first to know something of the difficulties of housekeeping in this country. That will be the subject of another letter.

Seeing them leave us one by one, from sheer exhaustion, some on furlough to America, some to their rest in that better "Homeland," I have been the more willing to listen to the friends who urged a rest and a change for Mrs. Rittenhouse. Accordingly, last July we packed our necessities, such as bedding, clothing, etc., and started for lower Burma. After five days of varied fortune on the mountain road, wet with rain and coated with mud, we reached Bhamo.

The heavy rains had carried away some of the bridges, and swollen the streams to angry torrents. At such places we sometimes found boats and sometimes there were only a few slender poles laid across the gap. These we must crawl across as they swayed and swung most insecurely above the rushing water. Baby Helen ordinarily rode in a basket at the end of a bamboo over a coolie's shoulder, with her food and clothing balancing her at the other end of the pole. At these flimsy bridges she was tied securely upon the back of our trusty Shan cook, who crawled across on his hands and knees.

In one of these rapid streams our two ponies were carried far down stream, and one was lost to sight, and we supposed he was lost because a search of a couple of hours in the elephant grass along the shore revealed no signs of him. He was afterwards found and brought to us at Bhamo.

We rested over Sunday in Bhamo with the friends there who have been like fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, to us, and on Monday we boarded the river steamer for Mandalay. This trip gave us another two days of rest with pleasant, sometimes grand, scenery to engage our attention. At Mandalay we had a few hours with the friends of two years ago, and then took train for Toungoo, where we were the guests of Dr. Gartin, of the Woman's Board. Shortly after we left Namkham, Mrs. Ingram and later Mr. Ingram was taken down with fever. When the word came to me; knowing that they were alone there in Namkham, I started back, leaving Mrs. Rittenhouse with Dr. Gartin. She remained about a month and then came here, where I joined her a few days ago. I found the Ingrams much improved.

We expect to go to Rangoon before the end of the month, to put ourselves into the hands of the dentists. After the dentist has done his work, we will attend the Annual Convention of Burma Baptists. There we will have the opportunity of seeing and hearing some of the men who have made this great Burma Mission what it is.

Meanwhile, we are trying to rest and recreate in this delightful city of lakes. On account of its pleasant situation and healthful climate, it is a favorite seat for English officials, and the social opportunity is exceptional. English officials and American missionaries in general find but little in common. Mr. and Mrs. Dudley enjoy the love and respect of their English neighbors to an exceptional degree, and when without sacrifice to the work, they can take advantage of the social opportunity they do so, and I believe they are justified in the large sphere of influence it opens to them.

Soon after I arrived in Meiktila we four were invited to tea by the wife of one of the civil officials. Besides ourselves there was one other guest, the wife of the civil surgeon. In every English station of importance the government employs an English physician to have charge of the sanitation of the place. He usually ranks second in the station.

This tea was an informal affair. Mixed in with the tea and cakes, and small talk, we were entertained by hosts and guests in turn. In all this we felt reasonably well at ease. To be sure, our raw western ears had some difficulty with their peculiar intonation, and wording, and close cropped enunciation. That is part of our education. But one of their customs left me with grave doubts as to the proper attitude of the missionary toward the English of this country. After the tea, the servant passed the cigars and cigarettes. The others all expressed incredulous surprise when we all refused and the other guest enjoyed her cigarette with our host with unfeigned pleasure. We had been told that many English women smoke, but this was the first time that we had seen a woman of England's great middle class enjoying her smoke.

While it is true that the English people look upon smoking very differently from their American cousins, and though their customs demand that the ladies be included in an offer of cigars and cigarettes, as in the instance I mention, yet the women who do not use it are by no means the exception. In fact, I believe that the women devotees of the cigarette in England would classify in most cases with the women of like habits in America. I mean that the women whom you and I would care to meet in England, as in America, do not use it. The difference is due to their false standards of classification based on wealth, family connection and social and political influence, which make it possible for people of low ideals, to hold place with those who are incomparably their betters.

From the tea we went to a meeting of the I. O. G. T., a temperance organization. The local chapter is composed chiefly of English soldiers. The English "Tommy" is vastly inferior in education and social position, to our own "man behind the gun." This particular

meeting was provided with refreshments and music, light and otherwise. The soldiers all sing and they aren't a bit ashamed of it. They all took their turns, and the favored ones had two turns. They were about twenty in all. A Eurasian brother "executed" a coronet solo, and a big jolly Irishman performed a few tricks of legerdemain. The brother who had invited the Irishman knew his guest's bibulous tendencies, but all his efforts to get him there sober were in vain. He was entertaining, to say the least. The soldiers showed their appreciation of the feminine presence in ways courtly and various. Those not immediately engaged with the program, kept the sandwiches and cakes and soda-pop moving in our direction, and any man that wished to smoke had the manners to go outside. Into two such gatherings as these none but the missionary can enter as an equal, according to the unwritten social constitution of England. Just as a matter of personal preference, I believe, I was more at home with the roast beef sandwiches and pop than with the tea and wafers.

Perhaps, these two pictures may serve to suggest to your minds, the great variety of opportunities and duties that come to the missionary in this country. With these opportunities go responsibilities. If you love the Master or us, remember us in your petitions to him, that strength and wisdom be given us to do his work in our hands.

Very sincerely yours,

WALTER RITTENHOUSE.

P. S.—In the interests of truth and justice, I must add that since writing the above, we have been compelled by a piece of disinterested kindness on the part of the civil surgeon's wife, to somewhat modify our judgment of her.

W. R.

Later news is that Dr. Rittenhouse and family are on their way to America on account of Mrs. Rittenhouse's health.—Ed.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY.

The year just closed has been a fruitful one in the Christian Endeavor Society. At the beginning of the year two societies existed, one meeting on Friday evening, the other on Sunday. It was felt by many that these two overlapped to a large extent and thought there ought to be a union of the two.

At a joint meeting of representatives of the two societies it was deemed advisable to unite the two organizations. This was effected in February. The united societies selected Sunday evening at 6:45 as the time of the meeting. The results have been eminently satisfactory.

During the summer months the society conducted open air meetings which were productive of good results. Several were led to confess Christ as their Savior Lord, and have come into the fellowship of the church.

The Mission Study class has become a feature of the work of the society. A number of the members have been meeting on Friday evening under the leadership of Rev. R. R.

Kennan. The subject of our last study was: "The United of China." Our next theme will be the immigration problem—"Aliens or Americans."

Ten new members have been added to the roll since last June making the total membership forty-six. We enter upon the new year with gratitude and hopefulness, taking for our watchword, "Enlarged Service."

S. T. FOSTER, Pres.

WOMAN'S MISSION CIRCLE.

MRS. S. B. LINGLE.

The annual praise service of the Mission Circle was held on December 13. Surely, it is good to give thanks unto our God, and no meeting of the year is more appreciated than this service which our president never fails to make fresh and inspiring.

The tasteful decorations and subdued lights lend a charm to the familiar room, and as we "count our blessings" all hearts are touched with the loving kindness that has crowned the year.

The large class of forty students from the Training School was in itself an encouragement to more faithful service on our own part.

Mrs. Marshall reported the profits of the lecture given by our pastor as \$127.50. This sum will go to the Training School Building Fund.

Miss Boynton, of the Woman's Home Mission Society gave the causes for thanksgiving on the home field. She referred to the new building progressing rapidly and to the large number of students: to the work at the landing on Ellis Island, where the first Italian graduate from the school is now reaching a helpful hand to her own people as they come to our shores.

She thanked God for the wonderful loyalty and devotion developed by the supreme sorrow that the year has brought the society, in the death of Miss Burdette.

It was a great pleasure to listen to our veteran missionary to Africa, Rev. Jas. Clark, as he gave the reasons for gratitude on that distant field, and pressed home the duty of witnessing to those about us, of the value of the religion of Christ, that has done so much for us as women.

After the Hawaiian Islands had been pointed out and described very briefly by Mrs. Bennett. Mrs. Gillette read a paper upon her recollections of her visit to this charming spot a few years ago, which was listened to with the greatest pleasure.

Mrs. Down sang for us the national song of Hawaii.

Mrs. McLaury recited a very appropriate poem and the offerings were brought in amounting to about sixty-four dollars.

A letter from Mrs. Felton, of New Orleans, enclosed a thank offering in memory of her mother, Mrs. F. O. Marsh, so long identified with our circle.

A delightful social followed the program.

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

Owing to the necessary use of Friday evening, December 27, for the church prayer meeting, and the fact that no other evening was available, our monthly business meeting and social was omitted during December. However, on Sunday evening, December 22, the following officers and committee chairman were elected for the ensuing six months:

President—Robert C. Leland.
Vice-President—Miss Paula Fuller.
Treasurer—Mr. Fred Wolters.
Secretary—Mr. S. T. Foster.
Lookout—Mr. Ernest Hartung.
Prayer Meeting—Miss Gertrude deClerq.
Missionary—Miss Clara deClerq.
Social—Miss Helen Todd.
Music—Miss Clara Stowell.
Sunday School and Visiting—Mr. Kennan.
Finance—Miss Lillian Linihan.

Our secretary reports the addition of the following members:

Attention of our members should be again called to the fact that the meeting Sunday evenings begins at 6:45 p. m. It is the purpose of the prayer meeting committee to conduct the meeting as a song service for the first fifteen minutes but giving that much time for us all to get together. Many seem to have fallen into the habit of coming in at 7:15, and even later. Such action is not only a distinct delay and hindrance of the meeting, but also often interrupts those who are taking part.

Our next social will be held Friday evening, January 31. Watch for later announcements. Come, and bring your friends. All are welcome.

At the missionary meeting December 29, members of the mission study class took the meeting in charge, giving a resume of the course on China which they have recently completed. We shall soon commence a study in Home Missions, on Immigration, using Dr. Howard B. Crose's study book, "Aliens or Americans." Surely, none can fail to show their interest in a problem of such vital importance in relation to our hopes and aims for our country's greatest future welfare, as this. Mr. Kennan will teach the class again. It is planned to augment the interest by meeting at the different homes of the members of the class.

Dr. Clark, who has recently returned from his station in the Congo, made a most earnest appeal before us December 15, in behalf of the natives of the Congo among whom his work lies. It is Dr. Clark's great aim on this visit to the United States to arouse public opinion to such an extent against the cruel and atrocious practices upon the natives of the Congo permitted by the Belgian Government, that our government shall be compelled to interfere in the name of humanity. Dr. Clark declared that the people have been mightily misled as to the true situation existing in the Congo, by representations, to the effect that the natives were not being mistreated, made by men presumably of authority, but who had not searched for the real truth. He referred especially to Prof. Starr of the University of Chicago, who visited his mission station in

CHURCH LIFE.

11

of the Cook County Sunday School Association very helpful indeed.

Miss Van Fleet spent December in Indian territory and returns to her work much rested and refreshed. She enters on her new duties with courage and enthusiasm.

We extend our most heartfelt sympathies to Miss Rose Patterson, who for the last seven years has been a faithful member of our Sunday School, in her late sorrow by the death of her mother, who passed away suddenly one week before Xmas.

Mr. W. C. Riebling, who formerly played in our orchestra, and is now in the Philippines, has been seriously ill there. He has recovered, we are glad to know.

The Sunday School has been remembered by him with several Philippine postal cards.

The Girls' Guild of Raymond Mission was very pleasantly entertained at the home of their director, Miss Lingle, on January 8. Twenty were present. We wish to call attention to the fact that our meeting time has been changed to the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. New members are always welcome.

The church clerk reports that there were 86 new members added to the church during 1907. 47 of these by baptism, 34 by letter and 9 by experience. There were sixty-two ———, forty-four by letter, and eighteen by dropping, leaving a net gain in the membership of twenty-four.

The Men's League class, on next Monday, January 19, will consider them "The Cleansing of the Temple." It will be natural in considering this, to discuss the subject of paid entertainments, that is just now attracting much attention. The following Sunday Mr. Ahren's Bible class will take up the same subject.

The Christian Endeavor will have another mission study class this winter under the leadership of Mr. Kennan. The text-book will be Howard's B. Grose's "Aliens or Americans." The class will meet Monday evenings, beginning next Monday, January 20, at 8 p. m. Next Monday the class will meet at the home of Mr. Kennan, 3226 Rhodes avenue. All who expect to join this study class should be present at this meeting.

A Big Church Social will be held in the church parlors the evening of January 31. Refreshments will be served by the Ladies' Benevolent Society. This will be the greatest social event of the year. A large general committee will have charge of the arrangements.

The reception committee consists of Dr. and Mrs. De Blois, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Ahrens, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Williams, Dr. and Mrs. Lumley, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Strandberg, Mrs. Gillette and Mrs. Hinckley.

person, and absolutely refused to see positive evidence of criminal abuse when it was offered. He declared that Mr. Starr's peculiarly inconsistent attitude against the idea that cruelties were being practiced and against the arousal of public opinion in this country, is no doubt explained by selfish reasons. Prof. Starr intends to visit the Congo again and desires to return as a friend of the government. Those of us who may happen through personal contact to know the type of manhood represented by each of these two men, can hardly fail to recognize great truth in the deductions of the missionary. Dr. Clark requested that we do all in our power to spread the truth with regard to the matter. He states that there are numerous examples of the cruelty of the state soldiery right in his own mission. He also asked that we write Secretary Root in regard to the matter, urging that our government be brought to interfere. Have you done it? Do it now!

ROBERT C. LELAND,
Dept. Editor.

AMORET HENSON GUILD.

The last meeting of the guild in the old year was held on December 30, with about thirty-four present. Among this number we welcomed several of our former members, Mrs. Kirk, Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Marsh, and Mrs. Kenyon. A delightful program was rendered by Miss Marguerite Smith, reader, and Dr. McLaren, violinist.

Since October, 1907, we have received eleven new members, and we hope the new year will bring us a great many more.

FLORENCE RAYMOND.

ITEMS.

Miss Eva McIntyre is very ill at the Baptist Hospital. We wish for her a speedy recovery.

Miss Margaret Shepard has the sympathy of the church in the death of her mother, Thursday, January 9.

Dr. and Mrs. H. E. Brown of Springfield, Mass., are the proud parents of a baby girl born November 26, 1907.

Mrs. William Pickett suffered a serious accident last month in the breaking of her arm. She hopes soon to be able to use it again.

We are sorry to say there is a great deal of sickness on the Raymond field, but lack of space does not permit us giving news in detail.

Mrs. Jane Roe, of Three Rivers, Mich., a faithful member of our church for many years, died last month and was brought back to the city for burial.

Many of the teachers of our school are finding the Monday evening class under Mrs. Wells

SATURDAY AFTERNOONS AND EVENINGS

Beginning January 4th, 1908, the Moody Bible Institute Extension Department Will Conduct a Union Bible Class at the Moody Church, Chicago Ave. and La Salle Ave.

During the past seven years this class has been regularly conducted each winter, and has ministered to the instruction and inspiration of many thousands of those who have attended its sessions, not to speak of indirect blessings passed on through these.

The representation has been wide in its range, including all evangelical denominations, the attendance last year coming from considerably more than 150 different churches located in all parts of Chicago and even remote suburbs.

For the convenience of those from a distance attending the afternoon sessions desiring to remain also through the evening, and for those who come direct from office or work to the evening hours, the Institute has been glad to provide a luncheon and make such attendants its guests.

Following is given the present

WEEKLY PROGRAM:

- 4:00 p. m.—Dr. James M. Gray. "The Deeper Spiritual Life."
 5:00 p. m.—A. P. Fitt. "Using the Bible with the Unsaved."
 6:00 p. m.—Luncheon.
 6:30 p. m.—Dr. D. B. Towner. A Praise Service.
 7:00 p. m.—John H. Hunter. "The International Sunday School Lesson."
 8:00 p. m.—Dr. A. C. Dixon. "Through the Bible with a Practical Purpose."
 9:00 p. m.—Prayer for World Wide Revival.

A RARE OPPORTUNITY

for all Christians and especially Sunday School Teachers and Personal Workers, is thus offered, to hear those two inspiring expositors and spiritual leaders, Dr. J. M. Gray and Dr. A. C. Dixon.

Those who have sat under the instruction and inspiration of either, even on a single occasion, will be glad to avail themselves of the opportunity here presented. Those who have not heard them are urged to join the number who testify to the exceeding value of the sessions by coming regularly from points many miles outside of the city to hear them.

Let us urge you to plan for attendance upon this class, though it cost no little time and effort. If you cannot begin at the beginning, come as soon and as regularly as you can.

The real secret of a happy life is putting one's powers as far as they will go.

This day is the summary of all ages—and you are a part of the to-morrow.

Many a man has been kept from a disgraceful, criminal, criminal act by the very thought that somebody loved him, that somebody believed in him, that somebody trusted him.
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